

February 2004
CENTRAL COMMAND

SAFESTAT REPORT



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March 4, 2004

Nevada Highway Patrol

Major Rick Bradley

Overview

The winter storms continued in the Central Command during February with the more severe weather occurring in the southern part of the Command. Of the 29 work days available in February, 17 days had travel restrictions as compared to 16 days in January.

Total crashes increased in the Command, with personnel investigating a total of 116 crashes as compared to 110 in the previous month for a 5.5% increase. When compared to the same reporting period in the previous year, February 2003, dramatic increases are noted in all of the crash severity categories. Command personnel investigated a total of 56 more crashes for a 93.3% increase. The increase is due to the lack of winter storms during February 2003.

The most alarming increase occurred in the DUI arrests resulting from crashes with 8 more DUI crashes investigated during February as compared to January. A greater emphasis on DUI detection will be addressed with the District Sergeants during upcoming SafeStat presentations.

On a positive note, crashes involving commercial vehicles declined by 26.9%. This is due to the continued efforts of all personnel addressing these types of crashes.

The Command's overall enforcement activity decreased by 11.2% with 267 fewer enforcement actions taken when compared to the previous month. The most notable decreases occurred in the DUI arrest prior to crash category, 48.4% and the occupant restraint category, 29.3%. Commercial enforcement personnel continue to do their part to ensure all State and Federal goals are met and should be commended for the 391.9% increase in total trucks weighed despite the winter weather conditions experienced throughout the month.

One area of major concern is funding as it relates to training and the associated per diem costs for related travel. The majority of Central Command's training budget has been expended to pay the costs for recertification training along with the costs for personnel to attend the first line supervisor and new training officer classes.

Central Command personnel have continued to perform their duties despite the severe weather conditions that have continued to affect the Command this winter. I want to thank them for their efforts.

CENTRAL COMMAND

CRASH ANALYSIS AND OVERVIEW

	February-04		February-03	% Change		January -04	% Change
Total Crashes	116		60	93.3%		110	5.5%
Property Crashes [including commercial vehicles]	84		41	104.9%		80	5.0%
Injury Crashes [including commercial vehicles]	30		18	66.7%		28	7.1%
Fatal Crashes [including commercial vehicles]	2		1	100.0%		2	0.0%
DUI Crashes [DUI charged]	9		2	350.0%		1	800.0%
Total persons killed in fatal crashes	3		1	200.0%		2	50.0%
Total drivers killed without seatbelts	0		1	-100.0%		1	-100.0%
Total passengers killed without seatbelts	0		0	0.0%		0	0.0%
Total drivers killed with seatbelts	1		0	100.0%		1	0.0%
Total passengers killed with seatbelts	1		0	100.0%		0	100.0%
Total persons killed -- seatbelts not applicable	1		0	100.0%		0	100.0%
Total number of commercial vehicle crashes	19		15	26.7%		26	-26.9%
Property crashes involving commercial vehicle	16		10	60.0%		19	-15.8%
Injury crashes involving commercial vehicle	3		4	-25.0%		7	-57.1%
Fatal crashes involving commercial vehicle	0		1	-100.0%		0	0.0%

Percentage of fatal crashes to total crashes 1.7%

Percentage of DUI crashes to total crashes 7.8%

Percentage of persons killed *without* seatbelts to total persons killed 0.0%

Percentage of commercial vehicle crashes to total crashes 15.5%

NARRATIVE ANALYSIS

[Narrative analysis to include trends or other applicable issues]

There was a 5.5% increase in the total crashes in February as compared to January. This increase of 6 crashes can be partially attributed to the continued winter storms that resulted in hazardous driving conditions throughout the Command. There were travel restrictions issued on 17 of the 29 days in February. When comparing February 2004 to February 2003, there was a marked increase in crashes of 93% or 56 crashes. This increase is due to the lack of winter storms during February 2003.

There were two fatal crashes in February. One crash was a head-on in which both occupants of one vehicle were killed despite both wearing seat belts. The other fatal crash involved a pedestrian who was struck in the roadway while attempting to assist another motorist stuck in the snow.

Alcohol related crashes increased by 8 as compared to January. There was only one BAC result that had returned. It was .12.

Crashes involving commercial vehicles declined by almost 27% as compared to January. Both property damage and injury crashes declined. Of the 19 crashes involving commercial vehicles, the commercial vehicle driver was at fault in 14 of these crashes.

FIELD ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

[Narrative analysis to include trends or other applicable issues]

	February-04		February-03	% Change		January-04	% Change
DUI arrests from crashes	9		2	350.0%		1	800.0%
DUI arrests <i>prior</i> to crashes	16		22	-27.3%		31	-48.4%
Other Arrests	104		123	-15.4%		88	18.2%
Total persons arrested (DUI included)	54		73	-26.0%		57	-5.3%
Speed violations	1085		1591	-31.8%		1211	-10.4%
Hazardous moving violations	192		260	-26.2%		178	7.9%
Occupant restraint violations *	200		234	-14.5%		283	-29.3%
Total violations [above violations included]	2120		2821	-24.8%		2387	-11.2%
Commercial Enforcement							
Hazardous moving violations - citations/arrests	20		35	-42.9%		17	17.6%
Other traffic violations - citations/arrests	7		13	-46.2%		11	-36.4%
Total safety inspections [level 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6]	621		422	47.2%		637	-2.5%
Terminal inspections [level 5]	0		27	-2700.0%		0	0.0%
Total safety violations -- citation	139		179	-22.3%		110	26.4%
Total safety violations -- repair order	878		1121	-21.7%		876	0.2%
Total vehicles placed "Out of Service"	46		65	-29.2%		42	9.5%
Total drivers placed "Out of Service"	20		33	-39.4%		13	53.8%
Total school buses inspected	21		0	2100.0%		55	-61.8%
Total school buses placed "Out of Service"	5		0	500.0%		8	-37.5%
Total trucks weighed	364		369	-1.4%		74	391.9%
Total overweight citations	6		6	0.0%		4	50.0%
Total dyed fuel inspections	611		410	49.0%		622	-1.8%
Total dyed fuel citations	0		0	0.0%		1	-100.0%

NARRATIVE ANALYSIS

[Narrative analysis to include trends or other applicable issues]

February reflected a decrease in overall activity by 11% when compared to January. Seat belt violations declined by 29% and speed violations declined by over 10%. Hazardous moving violations increased by almost 8%. The majority of the decline in enforcement occurred in Central Command South. The February winter storms had a greater impact in this area of the Command than the January storms, which had a greater impact on Central Command North.

DUI arrests prior to crashes declined by almost half. The average BAC was .135 for those tests with results that have returned. With the increase in the number of DUI arrests as the result of crashes accompanied with the decline of DUI arrests prior to crashes, greater emphasis on detection needs to be addressed by the District Sergeants.

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STAFFING AND WORK HOURS

STAFFING	Total Authorized positions		Current positions staffed		Vacancy Rate	
	February-04	February-03	Administrative Assignment	Field Operations	Positions Vacant	Vacancy Rate Percentage
Traffic [Tpr. & Sgt.]	71.5	69	11	52	8.5	11.9%
Commercial [Tpr. & Sgt.]	16	16	0	12	4.0	25.0%
Commercial CVSI	2	2	0	2	0.0	0.0%
BELOW WORK HOURS ARE FIELD OPERATIONS PERSONNEL ONLY						
WORK HOURS LOST	February-04		February-03	% Change	January-04	% Change
Annual leave	166.00		346.25	-52.1%	248.00	-33.1%
Compensatory leave	360.50		425.75	-15.3%	290.30	24.2%
Sick Leave [personal and family]	662.50		566	17.0%	548.00	20.9%
Military leave	0.00		160	-16000.0%	0.00	0.0%
Holiday off	42.00		132	-68.2%	106.00	-60.4%
Training	847.08		608.67	39.2%	792.50	6.9%
Administrative leave	120.00		152	-21.1%	320.00	-62.5%
Leave without pay	0.00		0	0.0%	0.00	0.0%
Vacancy [173 hours per position*]	2162.50		3200.5	-32.4%	2941.00	-26.5%
Total work hours lost	4360.58		5591.17	-22.0%	5245.80	-16.9%
OVERTIME	February-04		February-03	% Change	January-04	% Change
Paid overtime claimed	1107.67		1238.3	-10.5%	1046.50	5.8%
Compensatory overtime claimed	183.25		187.9	-2.5%	121.42	50.9%
Total overtime hours	1290.92		1426.2	-9.5%	1167.92	10.5%
TOTAL HOURS WORKED	February-04		February-03	% Change	January-04	% Change
Number of authorized positions x 173 hours*	11418.00		15051	-24.1%	11764	-2.9%
Work hours lost	4360.58		5591.17	-22.0%	5245.8	-16.9%
Overtime	1290.92		1426.2	-9.5%	1167.92	10.5%
Total hours worked	8348.33		10886.03	-23.3%	7686.12	8.6%

* 173 hours based upon 2080 work hours per year divided by 12 months

Contract Service overtime for February was 210.6 hours (55 hours was Southern Command personnel).

STAFFING AND WORK HOURS *Cont'd*

NARRATIVE ANALYSIS

[Narrative analysis to include trends or other applicable issues]

The staffing information has changed at the top of the previous staffing page slightly from previous months. The authorized positions do not include command staff or the Court/Warrant position. The 11 positions in administrative assignments include the Administrative Services Sergeant, Public Information Officer, Training Officer and 8 cadets in training at the Academy. Numerical staffing numbers shown above reflect only those Sergeants and Troopers whose primary responsibilities include enforcement activity, crash investigation, and commercial enforcement functions. Command staff and sworn personnel assigned to administrative duties are not included as they have no direct impact on the enforcement or accident reduction efforts.

The Central Command is experiencing an 11 % vacancy rate for traffic personnel and a 25% vacancy rate for commercial personnel. During February, there was one additional authorized traffic position over the allocated 71 for two weeks, therefore the ½ position. This is due to one cadet currently in the training academy that is to replace a Trooper who has not yet transferred out of the Command. The transfer was completed in the middle of February.

The total work hours lost declined by 16.9%. This is due to the hiring of 6 new cadets that are in the current Academy. Overtime in February increased by 10%, but this was due to the increase in contract service overtime hours. The total hours worked increased by 8.6%, however this increase is due to the 6 cadets in the academy filling prior vacant positions. The decline in vancy hours results in a net gain of hours worked even though the hours worked are at the Academy.

RATIOS – ACCIDENT AND ENFORCEMENT

ACCIDENT RATIOS

February-04

Ratio of crashes per Traffic position	
Total	2.2
Property	1.6
Injury	0.6
Fatal	0.0
DUI	0.2
Commercial vehicle	0.4
Ratio of deaths per fatal crash	1.5
without seatbelts	0.0
with seatbelts	1.0

FIELD ENFORCEMENT

Ratio of enforcement per Traffic position	
DUI arrests from crashes	0.2
DUI arrests <i>prior</i> to crashes	0.3
Other Arrests	2.0
Total persons arrested (DUI included)	1.0
Speed violations	20.7
Hazardous moving violations	3.7
Occupant restraint violations	3.8
Total violations	40.4

RATIOS – ACCIDENT AND ENFORCEMENT *Cont'd*

INSPECTION / ENFORCEMENT RATIOS

February-04

Ratio of inspections and enforcement per Commercial position

Hazardous moving violations - citations	1.7
Other traffic violations - citations	0.6
Total safety inspections [all levels]	44.4
Terminal inspections TIP	0.0
Total safety violations -- citation *	11.6
Average safety violations per inspection -- citation	0.2
Total safety violations -- repair order	62.7
Average safety violations per inspection -- repair order	1.4
Total vehicles placed "Out of Service"	3.3
Average vehicles placed OOS per inspection	0.1
Total drivers placed "Out of Service"	1.4
Average drivers placed OOS per inspection	0.0
Total school buses inspected	1.5
Total school buses placed "Out of Service"	0.4
Total trucks weighed *	30.3
Total overweight citations *	0.5
Total dyed fuel inspections *	50.9
Total dyed fuel citations *	0.0

* Commercial sworn only

NARRATIVE ANALYSIS

[Narrative analysis to include trends or other applicable issues]

The average number of crashes investigated per traffic position increased slightly. Total enforcement activity declined by 4.5 violations per traffic position as compared to January.

The ratios for commercial personnel increased as compared to January. Even though 11 fewer inspections were completed, there was one less Trooper working in commercial enforcement operations. Weight enforcement and dyed fuel inspections also increased per person.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

The training for 2004 has continued. RADAR recertification has been completed and first responder is 47% completed.

A total of 179 warrants were entered into NCJIS with 165 cleared. There were 1,667 warrants validated.

The evidence vaults processed 92 new items while disposing of 11 items. The majority of new items were from NDI, 73%.

Data entry for the new citations continues. Many of the issues have been resolved and the system appears to be working. During February 7168 citations were entered. 4583 were accomplished during 97 hours of overtime averaging over 47 entered per hour of overtime.

During January, Front Office personnel processed 50 arrest reports and 87 accident reports. Most of January accident reports were not entered into the "Crash" database. These are being entered into the new Crossroads database, which was not available until February.

COMMUNICATION CENTER

Overtime accrued during February decreased by 35.7% or 99 hours. Total overtime was 178 hours. Of the 277 hours in January, 88 were for "holiday worked." By removing the holiday overtime, there was only 11 fewer hours of overtime worked. This was accomplished by reviewing work load versus the number of personnel assigned. The result changed schedules to assist in the amount of overtime scheduled. The Center continues to operate with 3 vacancies. With the anticipated closure of the Center in the near future, the vacant positions are not planned to be filled.

Radio transmissions decreased during February by 9.8%. There were 68,906 transmissions in February as compared to 76,422 transmissions in January.

Incidents generated in February decreased by 9.9% to 7,558 in February as compared to 8,443 in January.

The warrant / dispatch consolidation committee continues to meet and discuss the plan for transferring the radio traffic from Central Command to Northern and Southern Commands in exchange for handling all warrants statewide.

PERSONNEL

Quarterly awards were presented for the period October – December 2003.

Dispatcher of the Quarter	PSD Tellina Marlar
Employee of the Quarter	Tpr. Keith Hoehne
Supervisor of the Quarter	Sgt. Harold Hughes

Annual awards for 2003 were also presented.

Dispatcher of the Year	PSD Tellina Marlar
Employee of the Year	John "Eddie" Truner
Supervisor of the Year	Sgt. Steve Boyer

Years of Service Certificates were presented.

Tpr. John Hampel	5 years
Tpr. John Peoples	5 years
Tpr Michael Timm	5 years
Tpr. George Edwards	5 years

Tpr. Don Neff was presented with a Life Saving Award for his actions during flooding and rescuing a local reporter.

Tpr. Fred Wurster was promoted to Sergeant of the Hawthorne District.

Tpr. Rand Rowley retired with 27 ½ years of service with the Division and over 30 years in law enforcement.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

During February driver safety programs were presented to Newmont Gold on 6 different dates. Approximately 600 employees attended.

Tpr. Gonzalez attended Student Government Day in Elko. This program exposes students to a variety of government functions and tasks performed.

On February 27 & 28, a child safety seat training class was conducted. Sixteen persons attended the training. Part of the training class is a child safety seat checkpoint. The checkpoint was held at the Family Resource Center in Elko with 32 seats inspected.

Tpr. Gonzalez instructed EVOC for Academy 51 cadets.

PROJECTS / ACTION PLANS

ADAPT Vehicle

The ADAPT Vehicle was utilized in the Alamo / Pioche area during February. It was utilized on 14 occasions for 101 hours. During the use of the vehicle, 68 citations were issued.

RADAR Trailer

The RADAR Trailer was assigned to the Alamo / Pioche area during February. The trailer was deployed on 14 occasions for 185 hours at 4 different locations within the District.

Budget FY06/07

Work continues and equipment requests are being finalized for the next biennium. Statewide meetings have occurred to complete the equipment requests for the Division.

UPCOMING EVENTS

None

Commercial Operations personnel conducted 16 fewer inspections in February as compared to January, but accomplished this with one less Trooper. Despite fewer inspections conducted, the number of vehicles and drivers placed out of service increased. The number of drivers placed out of service increased by almost 54%. This is a result of greater emphasis being placed on driver violations, as the majority of accidents involving commercial vehicles when the commercial vehicle is at fault, the cause is driver error.

The number of trucks weighed increased by almost 400%. This is due to the return of the El-dec scales from being repaired. Dyed fuel inspections declined by 11 from the 622 in January. Directed enforcement relating to dyed fuel on secondary roadways resulted in 117 inspections during 120 hours of enforcement.



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